

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor

SHAN S. TSUTSUI
Lt. Governor



State of Hawaii
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
1428 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512
Phone: (808) 973-9600 FAX: (808) 973-9613

SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
Deputy to the Chairperson

**TESTIMONY OF SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

March 19, 2015
8:30 A.M.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 95

Chairperson Tsuji and Members of the Committee:

Thank for the opportunity to testify on House Concurrent Resolution 95 that designates the month of October of each year as "Farm to School Month" in Hawaii to strengthen and support farm to school initiatives in Hawaii's schools. The Department supports this measure.

The Department believes in the importance of providing Hawaii's youth with the education and exposure to become agriculturally literate. Creating a connection between food and the farm from which it came is vital for students to appreciate the importance of agriculture within their own lives. Furthermore, experiences across the nation have shown that farm to school initiatives also result in increased student health and nutrition. By mirroring the national designation of "Farm to School Month" by the United States House of Representatives, Hawaii is expressing its support of greater student health and increased agricultural literacy.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.





UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Written Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Agriculture
Thursday, March 19, 2015 at 8:30 am

By

Robert Bley-Vroman, Chancellor

And

Maria Gallo, Dean

And

J. Kenneth Grace, Associate Dean

College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

HCR 95 – DESIGNATING THE MONTH OF OCTOBER OF EACH YEAR AS "FARM TO SCHOOL MONTH" IN HAWAII TO STRENGTHEN AND SUPPORT FARM TO SCHOOL INITIATIVES IN HAWAII'S SCHOOLS

Chair Tsuji, Vice Chair Onishi, and members of the House Committee on Agriculture, thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of HCR 95, which designates the month of October as "Farm to School Month" in Hawai'i.

This positive action to promote public awareness of the Farm to School effort is intended to connect schools and local farms with the objectives of serving healthy meals; improving nutrition and lowering childhood obesity; providing agriculture, health and nutrition education opportunities; and supporting our local farmers. These objectives coincide with those of the agriculture, health and nutrition programs developed and implemented by College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (CTAHR), University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, for the benefit of the agricultural community and the children of Hawai'i and we are pleased to lend our support to this initiative.

Supportive research and extension efforts by CTAHR include the many projects addressing children's health and nutrition under the umbrella of our Nutrition Education for Wellness (NEW) program; and the Children's Healthy Living Program (CHL), a \$25 million, competitive grant-funded effort to decrease childhood obesity rates through regionally and culturally appropriate nutritional and physical activity programs throughout Hawai'i and the American Pacific.

These objectives are also very much in line with agricultural education efforts at the Hilo and West Hawaii campuses of the University of Hawai'i, Maui College, and the Community College campuses.

Thank you again for this opportunity to express our support for HCR 95, and for designation of "Farm to School Month" in Hawai'i.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 8:22 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: nredfeather@kohalacenter.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for HCR95 on Mar 19, 2015 08:30AM

HCR95

Submitted on: 3/16/2015

Testimony for AGR on Mar 19, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nancy Redfeather	Hawaii Island School Garden Network	Support	No

Comments: 20 States have passed a Farm to School Program designed to create more market opportunities for local farmers, and provide healthier fresher food to our children and youth, increasing wellness and achievement. 17 other states this year have Farm to School Bills before their Legislatures. October is National Farm to School Month, and for the past years we have asked the Governor to proclaim this month long celebration of local food, school gardens and farms and all connections between education and agriculture. Thank you for helping Hawai'i to recognize, support, and promote local food, and agricultural education for our youth.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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Hawai'i Farm to School and School Garden Hui



Coordinated through The Kohala Center

TESTIMONY

House Committee on Agriculture
March 19, 2015, 8:30 a.m.

Kaua'i

Tiana Kamen
Farm to Keiki Preschool Program

Keone Kealoha
*Mālama Kaua'i
Kaua'i School Garden Network*

O'ahu

Hunter Heavilin
O'ahu Farm to School Network

Natalie McKinney
Kōkua Hawai'i Foundation

Debbie Millikan
Iolani School

Elysa Ermatinger
Hoa 'Āina O Makaha

Mahealani Matsuzaki
*Kamehameha Schools
'Āina-Based Education*

Terri Langley
MA'O Organic Farms

Jayne Grzebik
*University of Hawai'i
Master Gardeners*

Moloka'i

Harmonee Williams
*Sustainable Moloka'i
Moloka'i School Garden Network*

Mauī & Lana'i

Lehn Huff
Mauī & Lana'i School Garden Network

Nio Kindla & Kirk Surry
Grow Some Good

Hawai'i Island

Nancy Redfeather & Donna Mitts
*The Kohala Center
Hawai'i Island School Garden Network*

Statewide

Jennifer Ryan & Leimomi Dierks
Hawai'i Department of Health

Dexter Kishida
Hawai'i Department of Education, SFSB

Jennifer Dang
Hawai'i Department of Education, HCNP

Lillian Coltin
Hawai'i Department of Education

Andrea Snow
FoodCorps

Pacific Region

Dr. Koh Ming Wei
Pacific Resources for Education and Learning

HCR95: DESIGNATING THE MONTH OF OCTOBER OF EACH YEAR AS "FARM TO SCHOOL MONTH" IN HAWAII TO STRENGTHEN AND SUPPORT FARM TO SCHOOL INITIATIVES IN HAWAII'S SCHOOLS.

Chair Tsuji, Vice Chair Onishi, and Members of the Committee,

The Hawai'i Farm to School and School Garden Hui **strongly supports HCR95**, which establishes October as Farm to School Month in Hawai'i.

Formed in 2010, the Hawai'i Farm to School and School Garden Hui is a statewide network comprised of five island-level networks, along with representatives of the Hawai'i Departments of Education and Health, whose mission is to strengthen Hawai'i's statewide farm to school and school garden movement.

National Farm to School Month was designated by Congress in 2010 to demonstrate the growing importance of farm to school programs as a means to improve child nutrition, support local economies, and educate children about the origins of food.

The designation of October as Farm to School Month in Hawai'i is an important action by the Hawai'i State Legislature in recognition of the power of farm to school as a catalyst for positive change in our state. This designation provides a significant opportunity to raise awareness, interest, and participation in Hawai'i's growing farm to school and school garden movement among schools, families, and communities, including businesses and government entities.

Examples of activities that take place during Farm to School Month include:

- Nutrition education and garden-based learning activities;
- Healthy school fundraisers using locally grown foods;
- Taste tests, healthy snacks, and featured meal items using locally grown foods;
- Field trips to farms, farmers markets, food co-ops and grocery stores;
- Cooking demonstrations and chef visits to classrooms;
- School and community-wide events focusing on health, agriculture, quality education, and vibrant local food systems.

Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Lydi Morgan Bernal
Coordinator

Hawai'i Farm to School and School Garden Hui
schoolgardenhui@kohalacenter.org
www.hawaiischoolgardenhui.org



To: The Honorable Clift Tsuji, Chair, Committee on Agriculture
The Honorable Richard H.K. Onishi, Vice Chair, Committee on Agriculture
Members, House Committee on Agriculture

From: Jessica Yamauchi, Executive Director

Date: March 17, 2015

Hrg: House Committee on Agriculture; Thursday. March 19, 2015 at 8:30 a.m. in Rm 312

Re: **Support for HCR 95, Designating October of Each Year as "Farm to School Month"**

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in **support of** HCR 95, which designate the month of October of each year as "Farm to School Month" in Hawaii to strengthen and support farm to school initiatives in Hawaii's schools.

The Hawaii Public Health Institute (HIPHI) supports and promotes policy efforts to create a health Hawaii. HIPHI weaves silos into working relationships as an effective network, ensuring that we come together across sectors to advance collaboration and innovation in public health and work towards making Hawaii the healthiest place on earth.

Farm to school activities have been proven to support a nutritious school food environment and more than 85 percent of youth in Hawaii attend public schools. Students who participate in farm to school activities are more likely to be familiar with, prefer and consume more fruits and vegetable at school and at home. Establishing healthy behaviors at an early age can help to prevent the onset of chronic disease and other health conditions later in life. The leading causes of death in Hawaii are heart disease, cancer, and diabetes, all illnesses that are often associated with dietary behaviors. Farm to school initiatives have been known to connect schools and local farms with the objective of serving healthy meals in school cafeterias. This allows for improvement on student nutrition and farm to school initiatives are the driving force behind food system change in Hawaii.

The designation of the month of October of each year as "Farm to School Month" coincides with the United States House of Representatives' resolution passed in 2010 designating October as "Farm to School Month" that year. This designation will also empower children and their families to make informed food choices while strengthening our local economy and contributing to the community and help to promote farm to school activities.

For these reasons, The Hawaii Public Health Institute respectfully ask you to pass HCR 95 and feels this will help to promote health within the school system. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jessica Yamauchi", is written in a cursive style.

Jessica Yamauchi, MA
Executive Director

850 Richards St., Suite 201 | Honolulu, HI 96813 | T 808.591.6508

hiphi.org





P.O. Box 253, Kunia, Hawai'i 96759
Phone: (808) 848-2074; Fax: (808) 848-1921
e-mail info@hfbf.org; www.hfbf.org

March 19, 2015

HEARING BEFORE THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

TESTIMONY ON HCR 95
DESIGNATING THE MONTH OF OCTOBER OF EACH YEAR AS "FARM TO SCHOOL
MONTH" IN HAWAII TO STRENGTHEN AND SUPPORT FARM TO SCHOOL
INITIATIVES IN HAWAII'S SCHOOLS

Room 312
8:30 AM

Chair Tsuji, Vice Chair Onishi, and Members of the Committee:

I am Christopher Manfredi, President of the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation (HFB). Organized since 1948, the HFBF is comprised of 1,932 farm family members statewide, and serves as Hawaii's voice of agriculture to protect, advocate and advance the social, economic and educational interest of our diverse agricultural community.

Hawaii Farm Bureau is in strong support of designating October as "Farm to School Month in Hawaii"

HFB believes that learning where food comes from is an important part of our children's education. Agriculture education involves more than just learning the basics of food production, it provides the opportunity for our children to understand and appreciate the importance of agriculture.

HFB supports programs and initiatives such as Farm to School programs because they help to educate and reconnect our children with agriculture. Through Farm to School programs, our children will gain an understanding and appreciation for agriculture which will result in healthier eating habits, stronger support for Hawaii's agriculture industry and will contribute to Hawaii's food security.

We still have a long way to go to educate our children about agriculture. This initiative is another tool that will help in the education process. It is an investment to having well informed consumers and supporters of Hawaii's agricultural industry in the future.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

kōkua hawai'i foundation



**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HCR 95: DESIGNATING THE MONTH OF OCTOBER
OF EACH YEAR AS "FARM TO SCHOOL MONTH" IN HAWAII**
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
March 19, 2015, 8:30 AM

Aloha,

The Kōkua Hawai'i Foundation strongly supports HCR 95, which will establish October as Farm to School Month in Hawai'i. The National Farm to School Network broadly defines farm to school as the practice of sourcing local food for schools or preschools and providing agriculture, health, and nutrition education opportunities, such as school gardens, farm field trips, and cooking.

The Kōkua Hawai'i Foundation is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization founded in 2003 to support environmental education in the schools and communities of Hawai'i. Our programs include 'ĀINA In Schools, a farm to school initiative launched in 2006 that connects children to their local land, waters, and food to grow a healthier Hawai'i. In addition to encouraging the use of locally grown fruits and vegetables in school meals and snacks, the program includes a standards-based nutrition, garden, and compost curriculum that empowers children to grow their own food, make informed food decisions, and reduce waste. 'ĀINA In Schools also promotes field trips to local farms, chef cooking demonstrations in classrooms, as well as waste reduction, garden, and cooking educational opportunities for families and community members. We work directly with 16 O'ahu elementary schools that have implemented the program school-wide. We have also trained an additional 146 educators from nearly 100 schools from across the state in the use of our 'ĀINA garden, composting, and nutrition curricula.

Two years ago, October 2013 was designated as Hawai'i Farm to School and School Garden Month to coincide with National Farm to School Month. The proclamation acknowledged that school gardens enhance children's understanding of their food's origin while contributing to science, technology, engineering, and mathematics curricula. It recognized that the opportunity to celebrate locally sourced food and increase nutritional awareness can help decrease and prevent childhood obesity and avoid future health care costs for our state. Please see the attached document summarizing the many benefits of Farm to School programs.

The establishment of October as Farm to School Month in Hawai'i in perpetuity provides a powerful opportunity to raise awareness among our schools and communities through such engaging activities as garden and nutrition lessons, healthy snacks, farm field trips, chef visits to classrooms, community events, and more.

We strongly urge you to vote in support of HCR 95 to establish October as Farm to School Month in Hawai'i!

Mahalo for your consideration,

Jack Johnson,
Co-Founder, President

Kim Johnson,
Co-Founder, Executive Director

Natalie McKinney,
Director of Program Development

www.kokuahawaiiifoundation.org

P.O. Box 866, Hale'iwa, HI 96712 • Tel: (808) 638-5145 • Fax: (808) 638-0757 • info@kokuahawaiiifoundation.org

The Kōkua Hawai'i Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that supports environmental education in the schools and communities of Hawai'i.





THE BENEFITS OF FARM TO SCHOOL

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**NATIONAL
FARM to SCHOOL
NETWORK**

GROWING STRONGER TOGETHER

The National Farm to School Network is an information, advocacy and networking hub for communities working to bring local food sourcing and food and agriculture education into school systems and preschools.

Farm to school enriches the connection communities have with fresh, healthy food and local food producers by changing food purchasing and education practices at schools and preschools. Farm to school implementation differs by location but always includes one or more of the following:

Procurement: Local foods are purchased, promoted and served in the cafeteria or as a snack or taste-test.

Education: Students participate in education activities related to agriculture, food, health or nutrition.

School gardens: Students engage in hands-on learning through gardening. Farm to school empowers children and their families to make informed food choices while strengthening the local economy and contributing to vibrant communities.

Farm to school activities provide a variety of benefits to students, parents, schools, communities and food producers. This document outlines those cross-sectoral benefits and cites the research behind them. Farm to school is growing our future leaders, consumers, producers and community members.

Cross-sectoral benefits of farm to school



PUBLIC HEALTH

Farm to school activities provide healthy food options and nutrition and food-based education to influence healthy eating behaviors and healthy lifestyles in children. Through the use of school and community gardens, farm to school can contribute to healthy neighborhoods where communities have a better understanding of how food is grown and how food affects their health and wellness.



ECONOMY

Farm to school provides economic development opportunities to producers (i.e. farmers, ranchers, fishers) and laborers, distributors, processors, cooks and foodservice staff, as well as others who support the local food system.



EDUCATION

Farm to school can support educational outcomes for students by increasing student access to healthy foods in schools and promoting educational activities that help children and families learn about and develop skills related to healthy eating. Farm to school curriculum and experiential activities are also a platform to teach core content areas such as science, math and language arts.



ENVIRONMENT

Farm to school activities can support environmentally sound, sustainable and socially just approaches to food production, processing, packaging, transportation and marketing. Farm to school activities may promote an ecological ethic among participants, develop infrastructure that supports healthy environments and promote agriculture and food distribution practices that mitigate climate change.

Student Health and Achievement

Farm to school is a school-based strategy that focuses on creating a healthy school food environment.¹ Farm to school activities support children's development of healthy eating habits—such as preferences for and consumption of fruits and vegetables—while improving family food security by boosting the quality of school meal programs.²⁻⁵ Key outcomes include:

- Improvement in early childhood and K-12 eating behaviors, including choosing healthier options in the cafeteria; consuming more fruits and vegetables through farm to school meals and at home (+0.99 to +1.3 servings/day); consuming less unhealthy foods and sodas; reducing screen time; and increasing physical activity.⁶⁻³¹
- Increase in knowledge and awareness about gardening, agriculture, healthy eating, local foods and seasonality (in early childhood and K-12 settings).^{7,20-22,26,31-33}
- Demonstrated willingness to try new foods and healthier options (in early childhood and K-12 settings).^{7,20-22,30-33}
- Enhanced overall academic achievement in K-12 settings; provides children with an understanding of agriculture and the environment; and improves life skills, self-esteem, social skills and behavior.³⁴⁻³⁵

Food Service Costs, Revenue, Interest

- Increase in student meal participation from 3 percent to 16 percent (average +9 percent), thus generating increased revenue through school meals programs.^{8-9,20-21,23-25,36}
- Improvements in food service operations, such as increased cafeteria offerings of fruits and vegetables; development of new seasonal recipes; and changes in cafeteria waste management policies.^{8-9,21,23-25,36,37}
- Improvement in food service staff motivation and morale; increase in knowledge and interest in local food preparation and seasonal recipes; and increase in interactions with teachers to strengthen classroom/cafeteria connections.^{7,22,38}

Benefits for Farmers

In general, purchases from local sources increase as farm to school programming matures, with potential local sourcing of up to 50 percent of all produce purchases in season.^{7-9,20,22-23,25,36-37,39}

- Average 5 percent increase in income from farm to school sales for individual farmers.^{7,9,20,22-23,36,39}
- Increase in market diversification; positive relationships with school districts, parents and community members; farmers contracted to plant crops for schools; opportunities to explore processing and preservation methods for institutional markets; establishment of grower collaboratives or cooperatives to supply institutional markets.³⁶⁻³⁷



Community and Economy

- Increase in community awareness and interest about purchasing local foods and foods served in school cafeterias.^{7,22}
- Increase in economic activity. In one study, each dollar invested in farm to school stimulated an additional \$2.16 of local economic activity.⁴⁰
- Strengthened connections within the state's food economy.⁴⁰
- Improved household food security.⁴⁰
- Creation and maintenance of jobs; for every job created by school districts purchasing local foods, additional economic activity would create another 1.67 jobs.⁴⁰

Teachers






















- Positive changes in teachers' diets and lifestyles; positive attitudes about integrating farm to school related information in curriculum.^{7,20-22, 30}

Parents

- Increase in ability and interest in incorporating healthier foods in family diets and guiding children in early childhood and K-12 age groups to make healthier choices; positive changes in shopping patterns reflecting healthy and local foods.^{7,20,22,27,33}
- Increase in knowledge among parents of young children about farmers' markets in the area.³³
- Increase among young children in asking their families to make healthier purchases.³³

Summary of Farm to School Benefits

The core elements of farm to school (local procurement, school gardens, food and farm related education) provide for unique crosssectoral outcomes and linkages in public health, community economic development, education and environmental quality.

Population	Benefits	Cross-sector Benefits
Students		
Fruit and vegetable consumption	Increased +0.99 to +1.3 servings/ day	Public Health 
Physical activity	Reduced screen time and increased physical activity	Public Health 
Food-system awareness	Increased knowledge regarding: gardening, agriculture, healthy food, local food, seasonality	Public Health 
Food choices	Willingness to try new and healthy food; choosing healthier options in the cafeteria and at home	Public Health  Education  Environmental Quality 
Academic achievement	Overall improvement (K-12)	Education 
Behavior	Improved life skills, self-esteem and social skills	Education 
Schools		
Meal participation	Average increase of 9% (range 3% to 16%)	Public Health  Economic Development 
Local Sourcing	Up to 50% of all produce purchases in season	Economic Development  Environmental Quality 
Improved cafeteria operations	Increased offerings of fruits and vegetables, new seasonal recipes, new waste management policies	Public Health 
Food service staff	Improved morale, increased knowledge	Education  Economic Development 
Teachers	Positive diet and lifestyle changes	Public Health 
Farmers		
Income	Average increase of 5%	Economic Development 
Markets	Increased diversification and new opportunities	Economic Development 
Community		
Economy	\$2.16 economic activity generated for every \$1 spent	Economic Development 
Job creation	Each new farm to school job contributes to the creation of additional 1.67 jobs	Economic Development 
Families	Increased food security and positive diet changes	Public Health 

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2015 9:00 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: leimomikekina@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HCR95 on Mar 19, 2015 08:30AM*

HCR95

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for AGR on Mar 19, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Leimomi Dierks	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
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To: AGRtestimony
Cc: tiana@farmtokeiki.org
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HCR95 on Mar 19, 2015 08:30AM*

HCR95

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for AGR on Mar 19, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tiana Kamen	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 18, 2015 5:41 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: hokuokekai50@msn.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HCR95 on Mar 19, 2015 08:30AM*

HCR95

Submitted on: 3/18/2015

Testimony for AGR on Mar 19, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mary Lacques	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2015 4:22 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: kendraroz@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HCR95 on Mar 19, 2015 08:30AM*

HCR95

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for AGR on Mar 19, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kendra Ozaki	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 18, 2015 5:46 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: legechair@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HCR95 on Mar 19, 2015 08:30AM

HCR95

Submitted on: 3/18/2015

Testimony for AGR on Mar 19, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Simon Russell	Hawaii Farmers Union United	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Kakou Chairman Tsuji, Vice-Chair Onishi and esteemed Agriculture Committee, We strongly support the intent of this bill and thank you for prioritizing agriculture to our keiki in the month October. Me ka ha'aha'a Simon Russell Legislative Committee Chairman Hawaii Farmers Union United

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 19, 2015 7:43 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: carl.campagna@kamakagreen.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HCR95 on Mar 19, 2015 08:30AM*

HCR95

Submitted on: 3/19/2015

Testimony for AGR on Mar 19, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carl Campagna	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Written Only

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



KATHRYN S. MATAYOSHI
SUPERINTENDENT

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

Date: 03/19/2015
Time: 08:30 AM
Location: 312
Committee: House Agriculture

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Resolution: HCR 095 DESIGNATING THE MONTH OF OCTOBER OF EACH YEAR AS "FARM TO SCHOOL MONTH" IN HAWAII TO STRENGTHEN AND SUPPORT FARM TO SCHOOL INITIATIVES IN HAWAII'S SCHOOLS.

Purpose of Resolution:

Department's Position:

The Department of Education supports HCR 095, designating October as "Farm to School" month. The initiatives relating to agriculture and food, should be recognized to strengthen the connection between fresh produce, healthy choices, and long-term benefits for our students.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.